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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 09/787,030

Confirmation No.: 8138

In re Application of:

Yasuyuki SHINTANI et al.

Group Art Unit: 2635

Filed: March 13, 2001

Examiner: Edwin C. Holloway III

For: CONTROL NETWORK SYSTEM OF HOUSEHOLD ELECTRIC APPLIANCE

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed herewith was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

OR

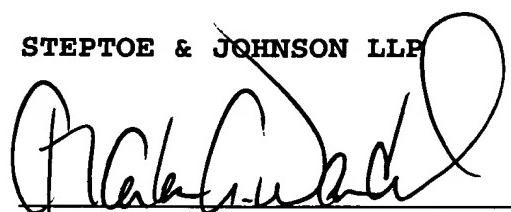
No item of information in the Information Disclosure Statement filed, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more

Serial No.: 09/787,030

than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP



Charles A. Wendel
Registration No. 24,453

May 19, 2005
Date

CAW/mhs

Attorney Docket No.: 28951.3069

Attachment:
Information Disclosure Statement

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20036-1795
Telephone: 202-429-3000
Facsimile: 202-429-3902



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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of each of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 are attached.

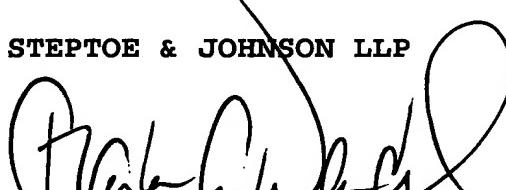
Also enclosed is a copy of a Japanese Search Report bearing a mailing date of April 20, 2004, and the USPTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

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The above information is presented so that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. §1.104(a) and §1.106(b) concerning the USPTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP



Charles A. Wendel
Registration No. 24,453

May 19, 2005

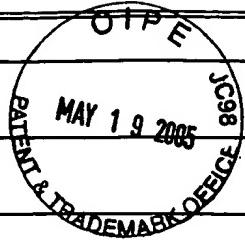
Date

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STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
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Washington, D.C. 20036-1795
Telephone: 202-429-3000
Facsimile: 202-429-3902

FORM PTO 1449 (modified)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICELIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S)
(Use several sheets if necessary)ATTY DOCKET NO.
28951.3069SERIAL NO.
09/787,030APPLICANT
Yasuyuki SHINTANI et al.FILING DATE
March 13, 2001GROUP
2635

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION NO YES |
|--|-----------------|---------|---------|-------|----------|--------------------|
| | 05-334863 | 12/1993 | JAPAN | | | ABST |
| | 09-134095 | 05/1997 | JAPAN | | | ABST |
| | 03-162198 | 07/1991 | JAPAN | | | ABST |
| | 06-178356 | 06/1994 | JAPAN | | | ABST |
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OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED